FLD 49

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Association for Chemical and Metallurgical Production, Usti nad Labem: Production of Chemical Warfare Gases	DATE DISTR.	1 September 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	

25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

Department No. 6, Production of Chemical Warfare Materials

1. Department No. 6 of the Association for Chemical and Metallurgical Production, Usti nad Labem, which is engaged in the production of chemical warfare materials, was completed by the Germans during World War II. Since 1945, production has gone on without interruption.

2. Department No. 6 employs six chemists, all of whom have free access to this department. Four of these six chemists are Dr. Nevrla (fnu), Eng. Jara (fnu), Dvorak (fnu) and Kubec (fnu). There are 16 other employees of this department.

3. Employees of this department are issued red colored passes which are valid for the entire plant, including the military department (sic). Ordinary workmen are issued green passes and are not allowed to enter any departments besides those where they work. Supervisors and other laboratory workers are issued blue passes, and they are allowed to move about freely through the whole plant, with the exception of Department No. 6.

4. Department No. 6 is administratively subordinated directly to the Security Department of the plant. The head of this department is Kubelik (fnu), a former major of the Czechoslovak Army in the USSR; he is 34 years old and single. Four members of the StB are also employed in the Security Department.

5. From 800 to 1,000 kg. of phosgene were produced daily during the summer of 1952. Phosgene was pressed into round containers which, when filled, had a total weight of 26 kg. The weight of an empty container was six kg.

6. The production of chloropicrin was discontinued in 1950.

7. The last explosion in the Usti nad Labem plant occurred in September 1951 in Department No. 6, when a boiler containing phosgene blew up. Eight people were killed on the spot and four others died later in hospitals. This occurrance was not reported in the newspapers.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	x	ARMY Ev	x	NAVY	x	AIR	x	FBI		AEC		ORR Ev	x		

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

Department No. 4, Production of TNT and Picric Acid

8. The daily production of Department No. 4, which is engaged in the production of TNT (trinitrotoluene) and picric acid, during the summer of 1952 was 20 tons of picric acid and from 15 to 18 tons of TNT. There are about 50 workers in this department, working in three shifts.

Association for Chemical and Metallurgical Production, Miscellaneous Information

9. In the Association for Chemical and Metallurgical Production, the department which succeeded the best in fulfilling its production plan was Department No. 6, which fulfilled it by 135%[1]. The worst department in this respect was the sulfuric acid department, which fulfilled the production plan by only 55 or 60%. The synthetic stone department, which produces synthetic rubies for watches, fulfilled the production plan by only 76%. It fell short because of a shortage of aluminum oxide.

10. Machinery in the plant is very old and no new machinery has been installed since World War II. Production is harmful and dangerous to personnel, as pipes and valves are not tight enough and poisonous fumes are constantly leaking out.

11. The only modern equipment is a new X-ray apparatus for sampling iron up to a depth of 15 cm. Its anodes are capable of holding 250,000 volts (sic). Here they X-ray iron samples from the United Steel Works, Kladno, the Vitkovice Klement Gottwald Iron Works, Moravska Ostrava, and special IF 16 steel from the V.I. Lenin Works, Pilsen.

12. The plant has its own power station, and hence electric power is never switched off.

13. In September 1951, samples of titanium ore (TiO_2) obtained from the Horni Slavkov area were analysed in the Usti nad Labem plant. From the poisons, photo-chemical compounds were produced, such as potassium cyanide, silver nitrate, sodium cyanide and fluorides - mainly sodium and potassium fluorides to be used in the glass industry.

1. [redacted] Comment: Possibly a reference to the production plan for the first half of 1952. 25X1